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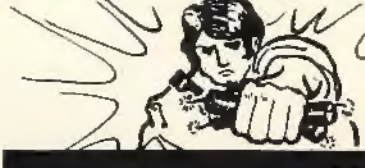

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IN THE WORLD OF MORTAL MEN HE IS *JIM CORRIGAN*, HARD-BOILED *POLICE DETECTIVE* -- BUT IN THE *TWILIGHT WORLD* WHERE *VILLAINS* DWELL HE IS *THE SPECTRE*, AWESOME AVENGER OF *EVIL*, AN EARTHBOUND *GHOST* WHO PUNISHES *EVIL* WITH A FEARSOME *VENGEANCE* FROM BEYOND THE *GRAVE*. TREMBLE NOW AS YOU PERUSE THIS *FRIGHT-FILLED* TALE OF...

THE SPECTRE

NOW, *VERMIN*, TASTE THE UNEARTHLY *VENGEANCE* OF... *THE SPECTRE!*

J-JIM! (GASP) *P-PLEASE!* H-HOW C-CAN YOU (GASP) *D-DO* THIS T-TO ME?

I-IT'S *M-ME... GWEN!* I-I (GASP) *L-LOVE* Y-YOU...!

SCRIPT: Michael Fleisher
ART: Frank Thorne & Jim Aparo
SCRIPT CONTINUITY: Russell Carley
EDITOR: Joe Orlando

1

ADVENTURE COMICS, Vol. 40, No. 434, July-Aug., 1974. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. 10019. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. Joe Orlando, Editor. Paul Levitz, Assistant Editor. Sol Harrison, Vice-President—Production Manager. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N. Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N. Y. 10036. Copyright ©1974 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U. S. A.

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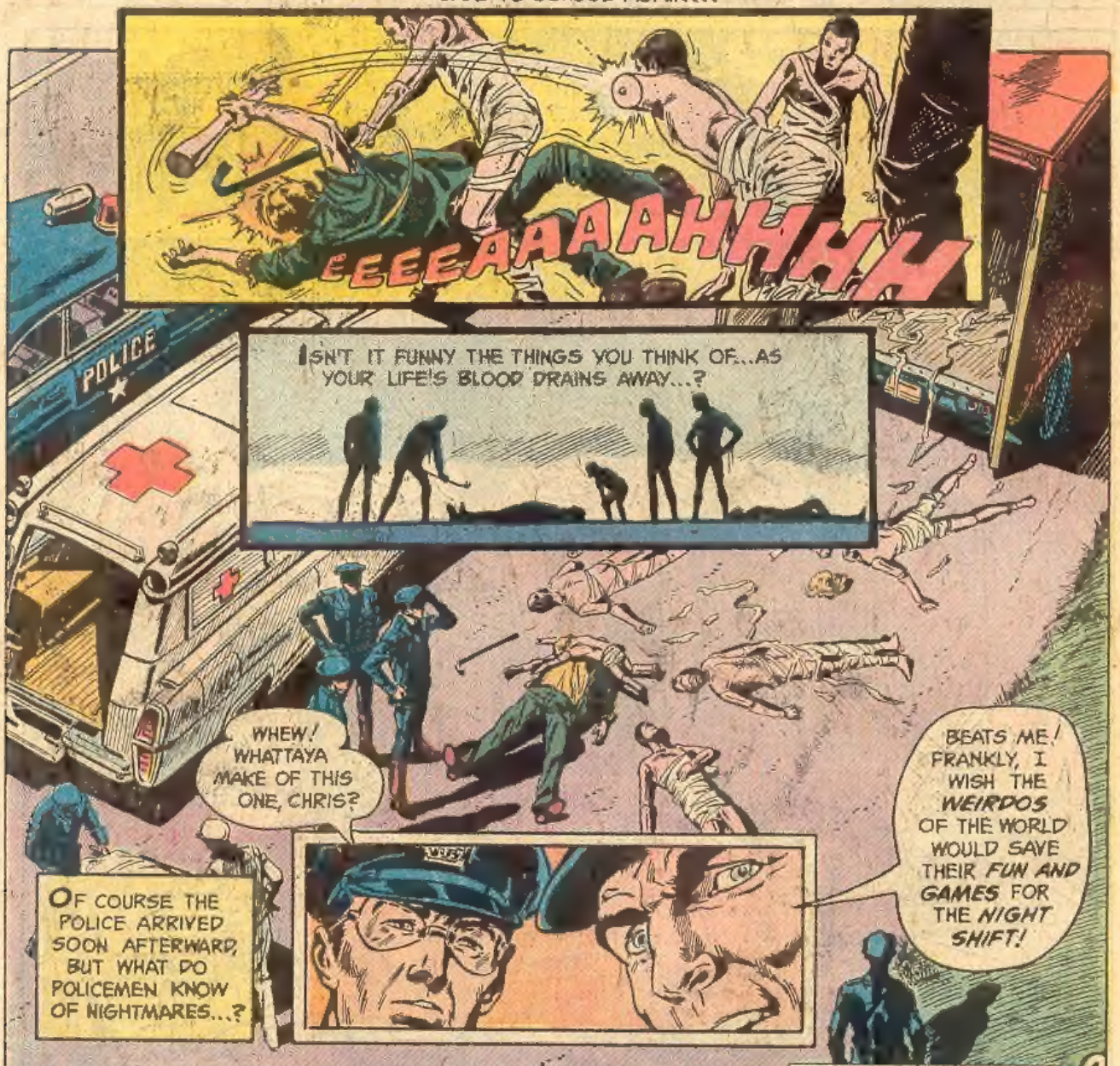
WE BEGIN OUR TALE HERE, ON AN OPEN HIGHWAY IN LATE AFTERNOON...
SOON'S WE DUMP THIS LOAD, FRANK, WE'RE HEADIN' FOR O'BRIAN'S BAR AND GETTIN' OURSELVES A COUPLA NICE COLD BEERS!
MONARCH MANNIKIN CO.
YES, SIR, WHEN O'BRIAN POURS THAT--
YEAH, PETE, I-I KNOW! B-BUT I PROMISED GLORIA I'D TAKE HER TO A MOV--
RRRIIIIIP
DID YOU HEAR THAT? WHAT KINDA NOISE WAS THAT?
SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE BACK'A THE TRUCK!
BETTER PULL OVER AND LET ME HAVE A LOOK!
IF WE BUSTED ONE'A THEM THINGS, OLD MAN MONARCH'LL HAVE A FIT OVER IT!
AND SO...
I KNEW WE SHOULD A TIED 'EM DOWN LIKE I SAID IN THE FIRST PLACE...
BUT TRY TO TELL PETE THAT, AND ALL YOU GET--
MONARCH MANNIKIN CO.
--IS A BIG...
LOOKS OKAY IN HERE! LITTLE PAPER TORN UP MAYBE, BUT THAT'S ABOUT--
2

THWAM!
YAAAAHHHHHHH!
HA 483
WHAT TH' BLOODY BLUE BLAZES--
FRANK?
YOU OKAY IN THERE?
FRANK--!?
HUNH!? WHAT TH--! TH-THEY'RE ALIVE!
MONARCH
HELP! HELP! HELP!
WHAM
WHAM!
3

NIGHTMARES CAN BE...FUNNY THINGS, SO SCARY WHEN THEY HAVE YOU IN THEIR GRIP... SO SILLY ONCE THE NIGHT HAS ENDED. POOR PETE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST ALL THOSE CREATURES, BUT HE FOUGHT HIS NIGHTMARE AS BEST HE COULD. YOU HAVE TO GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR THAT...

AND AS THE NIGHTMARE ENDED... AS ONE OF THOSE AWFUL MANNIKINS GRABBED PETE'S CROWBAR AND SMASHED HIS BRAINS INTO GORY SPLINTERS... PETE REMEMBERED HIS CHILDHOOD, AND PRAYED THEY WOULDN'T PUNISH HIM FOR BEING LATE TO SCHOOL AGAIN...


EEEEAAAAHHHHH
POLICE
ISN'T IT FUNNY THE THINGS YOU THINK OF...AS YOUR LIFE'S BLOOD DRAINS AWAY...?
WHEW! WHATTAYA MAKE OF THIS ONE, CHRIS?
BEATS ME! FRANKLY, I WISH THE WEIRDOS OF THE WORLD WOULD SAVE THEIR FUN AND GAMES FOR THE NIGHT SHIFT!
OF COURSE THE POLICE ARRIVED SOON AFTERWARD, BUT WHAT DO POLICEMEN KNOW OF NIGHTMARES...?

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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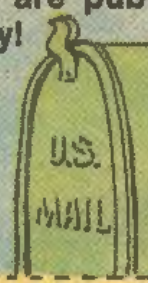

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ALLOW 10 WEEKS FOR FIRST DELIVERY!

WHATTAYA MEAN, "WEIRDOS?" WHO D'YA THINK DID THIS?
HOW DO I KNOW WHO DID IT? LOOKS TO ME LIKE THE MANNIKINS DID IT!
IT'S NOT ANY FUN BEIN' A STORE-DUMMY, YA KNOW! FIRST THEY--
THANKS A LOT, CHRIS! YOU'RE A BIG HELP! REMIND ME TO RECOMMEND YOU FOR THE DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD!
HA, HA! THANKS!
SAY, YOU KNOW WHO'S GONNA JUST LOVE THIS CASE, DON'TCHA?
YEAH! CORRIGAN! THE WEIRDER THEY ARE, THE BETTER THAT GUY LIKES 'EM! BUT HE'S OUTA TOWN... WON'T BE BACK TILL TOMORROW!
THAT'S OKAY! IT'LL STILL BE HERE WHEN HE GETS BACK... A LITTLE WELCOME HOME PRESENT!

A FULL DAY PASSES WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. AND THEN, IN THE SPORTING GOODS DEPARTMENT OF A SUBURBAN DEPARTMENT STORE JUST BEFORE CLOSING...

SUDDENLY, AS IF IN RESPONSE TO SOME HORRIFYING, SECRET SIGNAL, THE OTHER MANNIKINS IN THE STORE SPRING FROM THEIR PEDESTALS AND BEGIN A GHASTLY ORGY OF NIGHTMARISH SLAUGHTER...
L-LET... G-GO...! (GASP)
H-HELP! (GASP)

MEANWHILE, DETECTIVE JIM CORRIGAN RELAXES IN A TAXICAB ON HIS WAY BACK FROM THE AIRPORT. OR AT LEAST, HE TRIES TO...
...I TELL YA, MAC, IN ALL MY BORN DAYS I NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT... ANYWHERE!
UH-HUH! LOOK, DRIVER--

I KNEW YA WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME, BUT IT'S TRUE! THE THING WAS HUGE... ABOUT THE SIZE OF ONE'A THEM--
OH, BROTHER-- IF THIS GUY DOESN'T--
...ALL UNITS! CALLING ALL UNITS!
CAR 8/4 REPORTS MULTIPLE HOMICIDES AT HUNT'S DEPARTMENT STORE!
WHA-!?
ALL UNITS CONVERGE IMMEDIATELY! THIS IS A CALL 91, SIGNAL RED!
POLICE

...LIKE I WAS SAYIN', THIS BROAD HAD--
HUNH--!?! THAT GUY I HAD BACK THERE! H-HE'S GONE...!
6

GONE? WELL NOT EXACTLY..
A TAXICAB IS ALL RIGHT FOR JIM CORRIGAN, BUT IT IS NOT A SUITABLE CONVEYANCE FOR... THE SPECTRE!
AAAGG
CRUNCH
MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE DEPARTMENT STORE, THE RAMPAGE OF HORRIFYING BUTCHERY GOES ON... AND ON... AND ON...
...EVEN AS A FEARSOME SPECTRAL AVENGER ARRIVES EERILY ON THE SCENE...
I SEE YOU HAVE LEARNED THE SECRET OF LIFE, EVIL MANN.KIN!
NOW LET THE SPECTRE TEACH YOU SOMETHING OF...
...DEATH!
WHOOSH!
JUST DEAD PLASTER AND LIFELESS STEEL! BUT BEFORE THE NIGHT IS THROUGH, THERE WILL BE A HUMAN VILLAIN TO TASTE MY SPECTRAL VENGEANCE!
7

MEANWHILE AT THE FRONT OF THE STORE..
ALL RIGHT, NOW, WHAT'S
HOLY TOLEDO! WHAT'S BEEN GOIN' ON IN HERE--A DAMNED WAR?
WAR IS RIGHT! WHOLE PLACE LOOKS LIKE A CROSS BETWEEN THE SHARON TATE MURDERS AND THE BATTLE OF THE LITTLE BIGHORN!
HANK! GO CALL FOR A COUPLA MEAT WAGONS ... WE'RE GONNA NEED 'EM!
CHECK!
3.00
AND MAKE SURE YOU GET THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL THE EYEBALL WITNESSES TO THIS THING!
I WANT FINGERPRINTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, THE WHOLE DAMN CIRCUS. JUST LIKE IN THE MOVIES!
BOY, THE HOMICIDE BOYS ARE GONNA HAVE A BALL WITH THIS ONE! I--
DETECTIVE CORRIGAN! HOW DID YOU GET HERE SO FAST?
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
8

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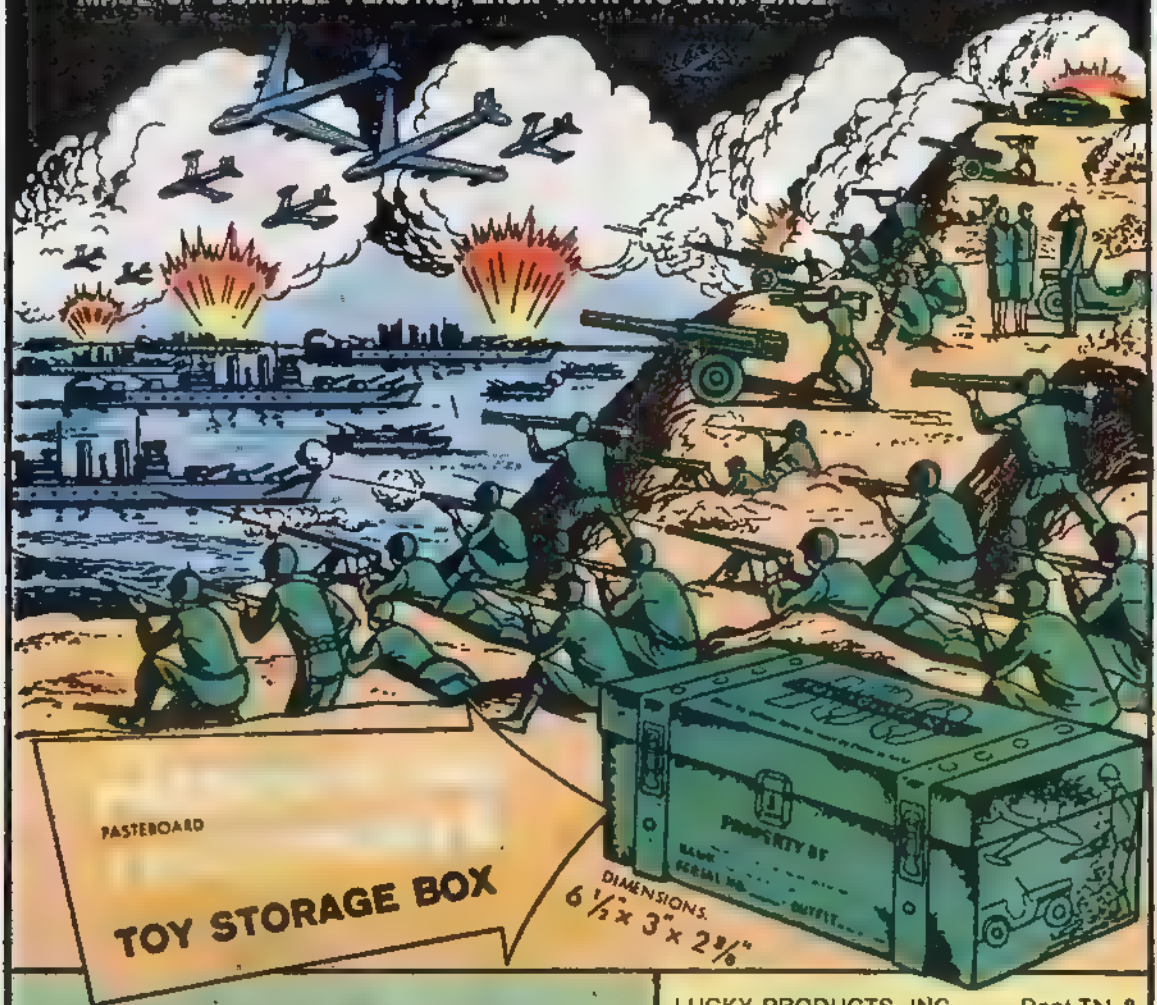

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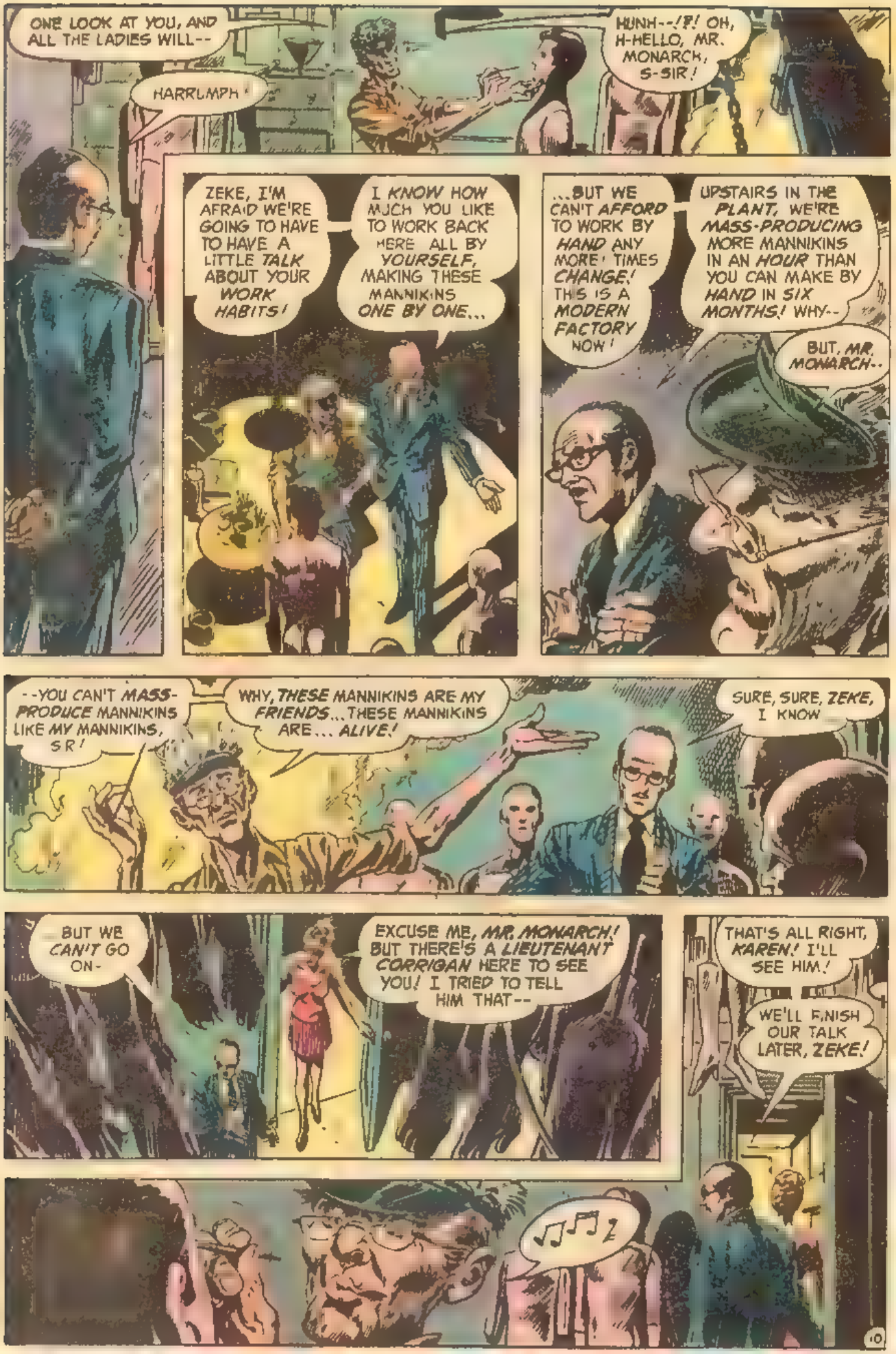
DIDN'T YOUR PLANE JUST GET IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES AGO?
YEAH WELL UH THE PLANE GOT IN A LITTLE EARLY! I HEARD ABOUT THIS AT THE AIRPORT AND TOOK A CAB RIGHT OUT HERE!
HOW DO YOU MAKE THIS ONE, LIEUTENANT? FREAKY, AIN'T IT? IT MUSTA TOOK A WHOLE ARMY TO WRECK THIS JOINT LIKE THIS
PRETTY STRANGE, ALL RIGHT ANYBODY SEE IT HAPPEN?
OH WE GOT WITNESSES, ALL RIGHT BUT THEY AIN'T NO HELP HYSTERICAL, EVERY LAST ONE OF 'EM!
TOLD US THE MANNIKINS IN THE [illegible] CAME TO LIFE AND STARTED BUTCHERIN' EVERY BODY FOR NO REASON!
NOT A VERY ENCOURAGING LEAD, IS IT?
BUT ALL THE SAME MAYBE I'D BETTER GO HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MANUFACTURE THESE MANNIKINS!
MONARCH
MEANWHILE, IN A CLUTTERED WORKROOM AT THE MONARCH MANNIKIN COMPANY...
TRY NOT TO BE IMPATIENT, HARRY! JUST A FEW MINUTES MORE AND YOU'LL BE ALL DONE!
AND MY MY WON'T YOU BE A HANDSOME DEVIL!


ONE LOOK AT YOU, AND ALL THE LADIES WILL--
HARRUMPH!
HUNH--!?! OH, H-HELLO, MR. MONARCH, S-SIR!
ZEKE, I'M AFRAID WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE A LITTLE TALK ABOUT YOUR WORK HABITS!
I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LIKE TO WORK BACK HERE ALL BY YOURSELF, MAKING THESE MANNIKINS ONE BY ONE...
...BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WORK BY HAND ANY MORE! TIMES CHANGE! THIS IS A MODERN FACTORY NOW!
UPSTAIRS IN THE PLANT, WE'RE MASS-PRODUCING MORE MANNIKINS IN AN HOUR THAN YOU CAN MAKE BY HAND IN SIX MONTHS! WHY--
BUT, MR. MONARCH--
--YOU CAN'T MASS-PRODUCE MANNIKINS LIKE MY MANNIKINS, SIR!
WHY, THESE MANNIKINS ARE MY FRIENDS... THESE MANNIKINS ARE... ALIVE!
SURE, SURE, ZEKE, I KNOW
BUT WE CAN'T GO ON-
EXCUSE ME, MR. MONARCH! BUT THERE'S A LIEUTENANT CORRIGAN HERE TO SEE YOU! I TRIED TO TELL HIM THAT--
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, KAREN! I'LL SEE HIM!
WE'LL FINISH OUR TALK LATER, ZEKE!
♫♫♪

PRESENTLY ..
...AND SO I'M AFRAID I'VE ALREADY TOLD THE POLICE ALL I KNOW ABOUT THOSE TWO DRIVERS OF OURS WHO GOT KILLED YESTERDAY, LT. CORRIGAN!
A HORRIBLE INCIDENT, JUST HORRIBLE!
I'M AFRAID IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN, MR. MONARCH! A WHOLESALE SLAUGHTER AT HUNT'S DEPARTMENT STORE... AND WITNESSES CLAIM YOUR MANNIKINS DID IT!
THEY SAY THE MANNIKINS JUST CAME TO LIFE AND STARTED KILLING PEOPLE!
WH-WHY, THAT'S... I-INCREDIBLE!
NO, OF COURSE NOT! WE'LL DO ANYTHING TO HELP! COME ON, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THE FACTORY MYSELF!
I KNOW, BUT RIGHT NOW IT'S THE ONLY LEAD WE'VE GOT! MIND IF I LOOK AROUND A BIT?
SOON...
THIS IS THE FACTORY AREA, WHERE MOST OF OUR MANNIKINS ARE MADE!
IT'S A MORE COMPLEX CRAFT THAN MOST PEOPLE REALIZE! WE USE THE MOST MODERN--
YOU SAY MOST OF YOUR MANNIKINS ARE MADE HERE?

IF YOU OWN TAPES OR RECORDS . . .

TITLE	ARTIST
Cherry Pink/Apple Blossom White	Perez Prado
Rock Around the Clock	Bill Haley
Autumn Leaves	Roger Williams
Yellow Rose of Texas	Mitch Miller
Love Is A Many Splendored Thing	Four Aces
Moments to Remember	Four Lads
Ain't That A Shame	Pat Boone
Crazy Otto	Johnny Maddox
Hearts of Stone	Fontane Sisters
Let Me Go, Lover	Joan Weber
Me	Al Hibbler
I Hear You Knockin'	Gale Storm
Unchained Melody	Al Hibbler
Till	Roger Williams
March from the River Kwai	Mitch Miller
Friendly Persuasion	Pat Boone

TITLE	ARTIST
Heartbreak Hotel	Elvis Presley
I Want, I Need, I Love You	Elvis Presley
Hound Dog	Elvis Presley
Don't Be Cruel	Elvis Presley
Love Me Tender	Elvis Presley
My Prayer	The Platters
Only You	The Platters
The Great Pretender	The Platters
Green Door	Jim Lowe
Singing The Blues	Guy Mitchell
Poor People of Paris	Lee Baxter
Whatever Will Be Will Be	Doris Day
Canadian Sunset	Hugo Winterhalter
Allegheny Moon	Patti Page
I Almost Lost My Mind	Pat Boone
Memories Are Made Of This	Dean Martin

TITLE	ARTIST
Bye, Bye Love	Everly Brothers
Problems	Everly Brothers
Love Letters In The Sand	Pat Boone
April Love	Pat Boone
Don't Forbid Me	Pat Boone
Loving You	Elvis Presley
Teddy Bear	Elvis Presley
All Shook Up	Elvis Presley
That's When Heartache Begins	Elvis Presley
Little Darlin'	Diamonds
Searchin'	Coasters
Young Love	Sonny James
Silhouettes	Rays
Gone	Ferlin Husky
Be Rare	Jimmy Dorsey
White Sport Coat	Marty Robbins

TITLE	ARTIST
No Ah In The Game	Tommy Edwards
Twilight Time	The Platters
All I Have To Do Is Dream	Everly Brothers
Bird Dog	Everly Brothers
Patricia	Perez Prado
Volare (Nel Blu Di Pinto Di Blue)	Domenico Modugno
Little Star	Elegants
Don't	Elvis Presley
Tom Dooley	Kingston Trio
Dot's Job	Silhouettes
Purple People Eater	Sheb Wooley
Poor Little Fool	Ricky Nelson
Yakety Yak	Coasters
Great Balls of Fire	Jerry Lee Lewis
At The Hop	Danny and the Juniors
Peggy Sue	Buddy Holly

TITLE	ARTIST
Mack The Knife	Bobby Darin
Dream Lover	Bobby Darin
Smoke Gets In Your Eyes	The Platters
El Paso	Marty Robbins
Stagger Lee	Lloyd Price
Personality	Lloyd Price
Gonna	Ritchie Valens
La Bamba	Ritchie Valens
Charlie Brown	Coasters
Kansas City	Wilbert Harrison
Sleek Walk	Santo and Johnny
The Happy Organ	Dave (Baby) Cortez
Heartaches By The Number	Guy Mitchell
My Heart Is An Open Book	Carl Dobkins Jr
Venus	Frankie Avalon
Lonesome Town	Ricky Nelson

TITLE	ARTIST
Theme From a Summer Place	Percy Faith
It's Now Or Never	Elvis Presley
Stuck On You	Elvis Presley
I'm Sorry	Brenda Lee
He'll Have To Go	Jim Reeves
Cathy's Clown	Everly Brothers
Running Bear	Johnny Preston
Last Date	Floyd Cramer
Save The Last Dance For Me	Drifters
Greenfields	Brothers Four
A Thousand Stars	Kathy Young
You Send Me	Sam Cooke
Wonder World	Sam Cooke
Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Bikini	Brian Hyland
Handy Man	Jimmy Jones
Good Timin'	Jimmy Jones

TITLE	ARTIST
Sugar Shack	Jimmy Gilmer
He's So Fine	Chiffons
Hey Paula	Paul and Paula
Blue Velvet	Bobby Vinton
Louie, Louie	Kingsmen
Sukiyaki	Kyu Sakamoto
My Boyfriend's Back	Angels
I Will Follow Him	Little Peggy March
Walk Like A Man	Four Seasons
It's My Party	Lesley Gore
Surf City	Jan and Dean
I'm Looking R Up To You	Dale and Grace
Deep Purple	Nino Tempo April Stevens
Rhythm Of The Rain	Cascades
If You Wanna Be Happy	Jimmy Soul
Our Day Will Come	Ruby & The Romantics

TITLE	ARTIST
Anyone Who Had A Heart	Dionne Warwick
Laugh, Laugh	Beau Brummels
A Summer Song	Chad & Jeremy
He Not Unusual	Tom Jones
Baby I'm Yours	Barbara Lewis
Girl From Ipanema (Full Version)	Getz/Gilberto
Last Kiss	J. Frank Wilson
Hello, Dolly!	Louis Armstrong
I Get Around	Beach Boys
Where Did Our Love Go	Supremes
Mr. Lonely	Bobby Vinton
Do Wah Diddy Diddy	Manfred Mann
Everybody Loves Somebody	Dean Martin
Chapel Of Love	Dixie Cups
Rag Doll	Four Seasons
Leader Of The Pack	Shangri-Las

TITLE	ARTIST
Satisfaction	Rolling Stones
You've Lost That Lovin Feelin	Righteous Brothers
Downtown	Petula Clark
Turn! Turn! Turn!	Byrds
Stop In The Name Of Love	Supremes
Last Kiss	Castaways
Do You Believe In Magic	Lovin Spoonful
What Becomes Of The Brokenhearted	Jimmy Ruffin
This Diamond Ring	Gary Lewis & Playboys
My Girl	Temptations
I Got You Babe	Sonny and Cher
Get Off My Cloud	Rolling Stones
Sounds of Silence	Simon and Garfunkel
Help Me Rhonda	Beach Boys
Tambourine Man	Byrds
Eve of Destruction	Barry McGuire

TITLE	ARTIST
Rolling Stones	
Righteous Brothers	
Petula Clark	
Byrds	
Supremes	
Castaways	
Lovin Spoonful	
Jimmy Ruffin	
Gary Lewis & Playboys	
Temptations	
Sonny and Cher	
Rolling Stones	
Simon and Garfunkel	
Beach Boys	
Byrds	
Barry McGuire	

TITLE	ARTIST
Ray Charles	
Four Seasons	
Bobby Vinton	
Acker Bilk	
Four Seasons	
Shelly Fabares	
Elvis Presley	
Shirelles	
David Rose	
Neil Sedaka	
Nat King Cole	
Elvis Presley	
Little Eva	
Marcie Blane	
Bobby Rydell	
Dion	

TITLE	ARTIST
I'm A Believer	Monkees
Winchester Cathedral	New Vaudeville Band
96 Tears	? and the Mysterians
Soul and Inspiration	Righteous Brothers
Snoopy and the Red Baron	Royal Guardsmen
Monday, Monday	Mamas and Papas
Good Vibrations	Beach Boys
Reach Out, I'll Be There	Four Tops
Cherish	Association
Good Lovin	Young Rascals
Sunshine Superman	Donovan
Wild Thing	Troggs
Strangers In The Night	Frank Sinatra
Poor Side Of Town	Johnny Rivers
When A Man Loves A Woman	Percy Sledge
Hanky Panky	Tommy James

TITLE	ARTIST
Ode To Billie Joe	Bobbie Gentry
Daydream Believer	Monkees
Light My Fire	Doors
The Letter	Box Tops
Windy	Association
Groovin	Young Rascals
Incense & Peppermints	Strawberry Alarm Clock
Little Bit O' Soul	Music Explosion
Never My Love	Association
Can I Take My Eyes Off You	Frankie Valli
Kind Of A Drag	Buckinghams
Pied Piper	Crispian St. Peters
Women, Women	Gary Puckett/Union Gap
Ruby Tuesday	Rolling Stones
I Was Made To Love Her	Stevie Wonder
Sweet Soul Music	Arthur Conley

TITLE	ARTIST
Atlantis	Donovan
I Heard It Through The Grapevine	Marvin Gaye
Love Is Blue	Paul Mauriat
Love Child	Diana Ross/Supremes
Sittin' On The Dock Of The Bay	Otis Redding
Honey	Bobby Goldsboro
People Got To Be Free	Rascals
This Guy's In Love With You	Doors
Harper Valley P.T.A.	Jeannie C. Riley
Hello I Love You	Doors
For Once In My Life	Stevie Wonder
These Were The Days	Mary Hopkins
Little Green Apples	O. C. Smith
Green Tambourine	Lemon Pipers
Cry Like A Baby	Box Tops
Mrs. Robinson	Simon and Garfunkel

TITLE	ARTIST
Sugar, Sugar	Archies
Aquarius/Let The Sunshine In	Fifth Dimension
Honky Tonk Women	Rolling Stones
Everyday People	Sly & Family Stone
Crimson and Clover	Tommy James/Shondells
By The Time I Get To Phoenix	Glen Campbell
In The Year 2525	Zager and Evans
Leaving On A Jet Plane	Peter, Paul & Mary
Somedays We'll Be Together	Diana Ross/Supremes
Crystal Blue Persuasion	Tommy James/Shondells
Hair	Cast
Spinning Wheel	Blood, Sweat & Tears
I'm Gonna Make You Love Me	Supremes & Temptations
A Boy Named Sue	Johnny Cash
Proud Mary	Creedence Clearwater
Green River	Creedence Clearwater

TITLE	ARTIST
Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head	B. J. Thomas
Bridge Over Troubled Water	Simon and Garfunkel
Close To You	Carpenters
I Think I Love You	Partridge Family
Pinball Wizard (Original Version)	The Who
Rose Garden	Lynn Anderson
Mr. Business Man	Ray Stevens
One Less Bell To Answer	Fifth Dimension
War	Edwin Starr
A-B-C	Jackson Five
Mama Told Me (Not To Come)	Three Dog Night
Make It With You	Bread
American Woman	Guess Who
We're Only Just Begun	Carpenters
Crackin' Rose	Neil Diamond
Everything is Beautiful	Ray Stevens

TITLE	ARTIST
Brown Sugar	Rolling Stones
Want Ads	Honey Cone
If	Bread
Spirit Hitch-Hiker	CCR
Sweet Mary	Wadsworth Mansion
Country Roads	John Denver
How Can I Be A Broken Heart	Bee Gees
I Am I Said	Neil Diamond
Walk Away	James Gang
Maggie May (Full Version)	Rod Stewart
Losing Her Wild Ember	Kris Kristofferson
Old Fashioned Love Song	Three Dog Night
Do You Know What I Mean	Lee Michaels
It's Too Late	Carole King
Story In Your Eyes	Moody Blues
Wild World	Cat Stevens

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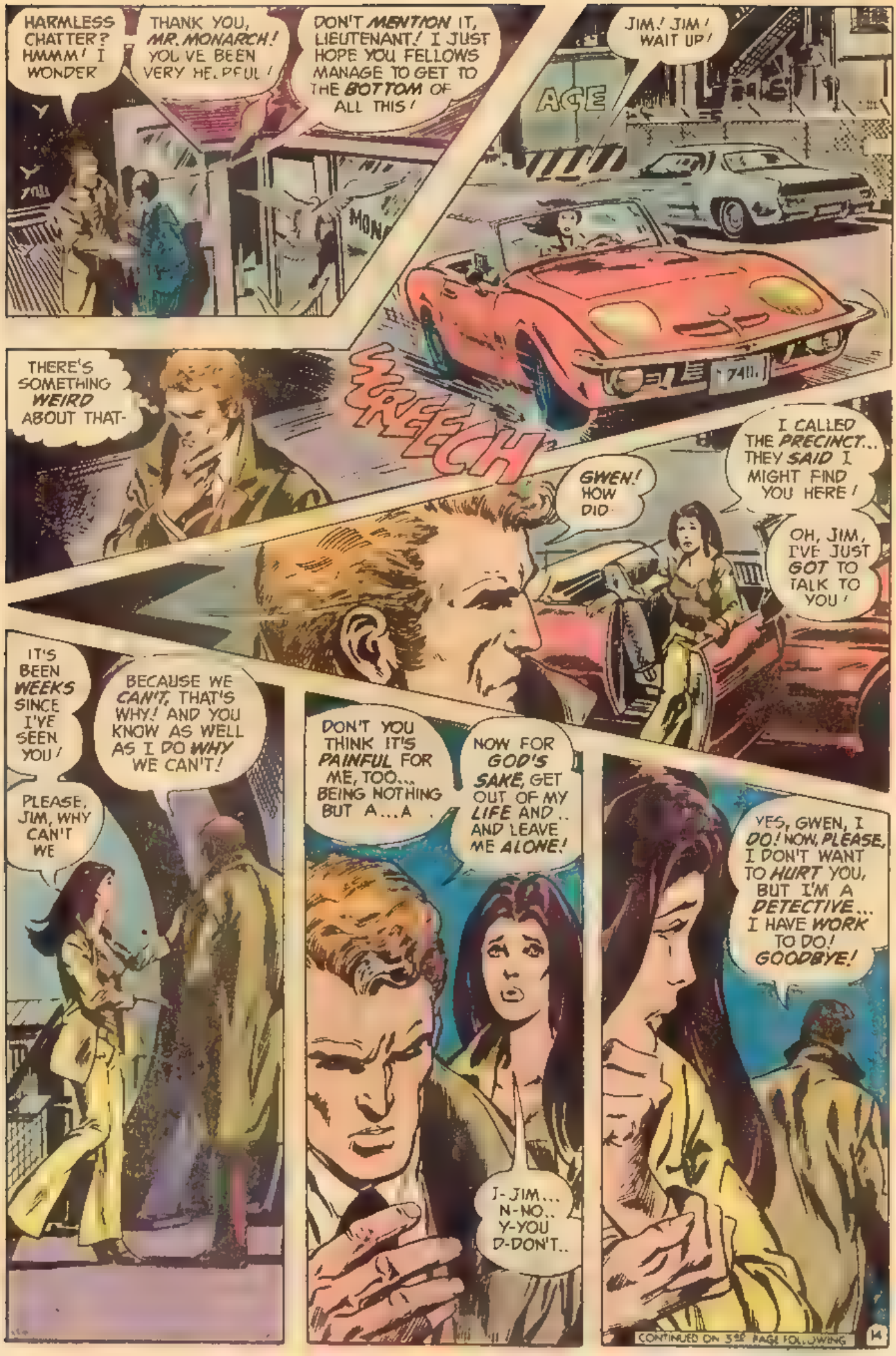
WELL, YES! OLD ZEKE BOROSOVITCH STILL WORKS IN HIS OWN WORKROOM, TURNING OUT MANNIKINS BY HAND, ONE BY ONE... JUST LIKE THEY USED TO DO IT A HALF CENTURY AGO!
YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIRE OLD ZEKE'S DEVOTION, I GUESS, BUT IN A COMPETITIVE BUSINESS LIKE OURS IT--
WOULD HE MIND IF WE STOPPED IN THERE FOR A MINUTE?
HA HA! SURE, HE'D MIND! HE MINDS IT WHEN I COME IN THERE! BUT COME ON, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
EZEKIAL BOROSOVITCH MANNIKIN MAKER
THIS IS LT. CORRIGAN, ZEKE! IT SEEMS THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE ACCUSING OUR MANNIKINS OF COMING TO LIFE AND MURDERING PEOPLE!
REALLY?
I WAS TELLING LT. CORRIGAN THAT IF ANY OF OUR MANNIKINS ARE GUILTY THEY MUST BE YOURS, ZEKE! THE WAY YOU FUSS OVER THEM, SOME OF 'EM PROBABLY IMAGINE THEY'RE ACTUALLY HUMAN!
HOW ABOUT THAT, MR. BOROSOVITCH? YOU THINK YOUR MANNIKINS MIGHT SUDDENLY COME TO LIFE AND START KILLING PEOPLE FOR NO REASON?
NOT FOR NO REASON, MR. CORRIGAN! BUT--
12

--THEY MIGHT KILL IF THEY GOT ANGRY ENOUGH, AND I WOULDN'T BLAME 'EM FOR IT, NEITHER!
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO THROUGH LIFE THE WAY THEY DO... ALWAYS ON DISPLAY, NO ONE TAKING THEM SERIOUSLY...
NO ONE CARING ABOUT THEIR FEELINGS! AFTER ALL--
HA HA! WHAT DID I TELL YOU, LIEUTENANT? HE--
GO ON, MR. BOROSOVITCH, PLEASE!
NO! I GOT NUTHIN' MORE TO SAY! YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIM... JUST LIKE ALL THE REST OF 'EM! YOU THINK YOU'RE SO SMART! BUT YOU AIN'T SO SMART! YOU AIN'T SO DAMN SMART!
PRESENTLY...
WELL, LT. CORRIGAN, YOU'VE SEEN THE WHOLE SHOP! IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE I--
JUST ONE MORE THING, MR. MONARCH... WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT FELLOW BOROSOVITCH?
OLD ZEKE? HARMLESS OLD COOT, REALLY! A LITTLE FLAKY, MAYBE... BEEN WITH THE COMPANY SINCE MY DAD FOUNDED THE PLACE!
MAYBE I OUGHT TO FIRE THE OLD DUFFER, BUT I JUST HAVEN'T GOT IT IN ME!
IN A WAY YOU'VE GOT TO FEEL SORRY FOR OLD ZEKE! THOSE MANNIKINS ARE ALL HE HAS! THEY'RE HIS WHOLE LIFE!
DOES HE OFTEN SAY STUFF LIKE THAT, ABOUT THE MANNIKINS BEING ANGRY AND HAVING A GOOD REASON FOR REVENGE?
HA HA! WHY, YES, I SUPPOSE HE DOES!
BUT IT'S HARMLESS CHATTER! ZEKE JUST THINKS THE REST OF US SHOULD SEE HIS MANNIKINS THE WAY HE SEEMS THEM... AS REAL PEOPLE WITH EMOTIONS AND FEELINGS!


HARMLESS CHATTER? HMMM! I WONDER
THANK YOU, MR. MONARCH! YOU'VE BEEN VERY HELPFUL!
DON'T MENTION IT, LIEUTENANT! I JUST HOPE YOU FELLOWS MANAGE TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF ALL THIS!
JIM! JIM! WAIT UP!
ACE
THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THAT-
SCREECH
GWEN! HOW DID
I CALLED THE PRECINCT... THEY SAID I MIGHT FIND YOU HERE!
OH, JIM, I'VE JUST GOT TO TALK TO YOU!
IT'S BEEN WEEKS SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU!
PLEASE, JIM, WHY CAN'T WE
BECAUSE WE CAN'T, THAT'S WHY! AND YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO WHY WE CAN'T!
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S PAINFUL FOR ME, TOO... BEING NOTHING BUT A...A
NOW FOR GOD'S SAKE, GET OUT OF MY LIFE AND.. AND LEAVE ME ALONE!
J-JIM... N-NO.. Y-YOU D-DON'T..
YES, GWEN, I DO! NOW, PLEASE, I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, BUT I'M A DETECTIVE... I HAVE WORK TO DO! GOODBYE!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
14

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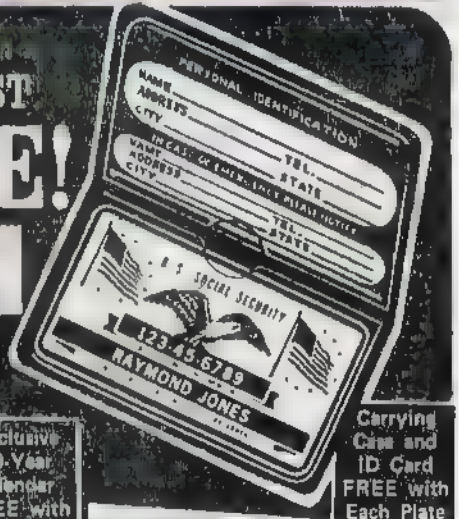

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G-GOOD-BYE, JIM...! (SOB)
DON'T CRY, MISS! I JUST HATE TO SEE A PRETTY YOUNG GIRL CRY!
W-WHO ARE Y-YOU?
ME? I'M JUST AN OLD MAN, I GUESS... BUT I GET PLEASURE OUTA HELPIN' FOLKS IN TROUBLE--
--AND IN MY WORKROOM, I GOT JUST THE THING TO HELP PUT EVERYTHING RIGHT BETWEEN YOU AND THAT YOUNG MR. CORRIGAN!
Y YOU D-DO?
MOMENTS LATER..
NOW YOU SIT RIGHT DOWN HERE NOW, WHILE I MAKE YOU A NICE HOT CUP OF TEA!
JUST TRUST OLD ZEKE! HE'LL HAVE THAT MR. CORRIGAN EATIN' OUTA YOUR DAINTY LITTLE HAND IN NO TIME AT ALL . !
LATER THAT NIGHT, IN JIM CORRIGAN'S APARTMENT
I WAS AWFULLY HARD ON GWEN THIS AFTERNOON, BUT AS...
THE DOOR-BELL! NOW WHO IN BLAZES--
BUZZZ
GWEN! WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU-
OH, HELL, WHO CARES? I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE! COME ON IN!
15

GWEN I'M SORRY ABOUT THE WAY I BEHAVED THIS AFTERNOON
...BUT YOU, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE SINCE THE HORRIBLE BIND
I'M NOT EVEN A REAL PERSON OR CRYING OUT LOUD I'M A DEAD MAN
A SPEC
FOR TO AROUSE THE ANGER OF JIM CORRIGAN IS TO TEMPT THE WRATH OF
--THE SPECTRE
THAT WAS VERY FOOLISH, MY DEAR VERY FOOLISH INDEED!

IT IS A SIGHT TO CHILL THE BLOOD OF MORTAL MEN, AS THE MEAT CLEAVER COMES MIRACULOUSLY TO LIFE WHIRLING THROUGH THE AIR WITH MIGHTY BLOWS HACKING OFF GWEN'S ARMS, SEVERING HER LEGS FROM HER BODY, SMASHING HER SKULL IN TWO.

UNTIL FINALLY, ONLY A SHATTERED CORPSE REMAINS...THE SHATTERED CORPSE OF

A *MANNIKIN*.

...INGENIOUSLY FASHIONED IN THE LIKENESS OF *GWENDOLYN STERLING*... AND SENT HERE TONIGHT TO KILL *JIM CORRIGAN*..

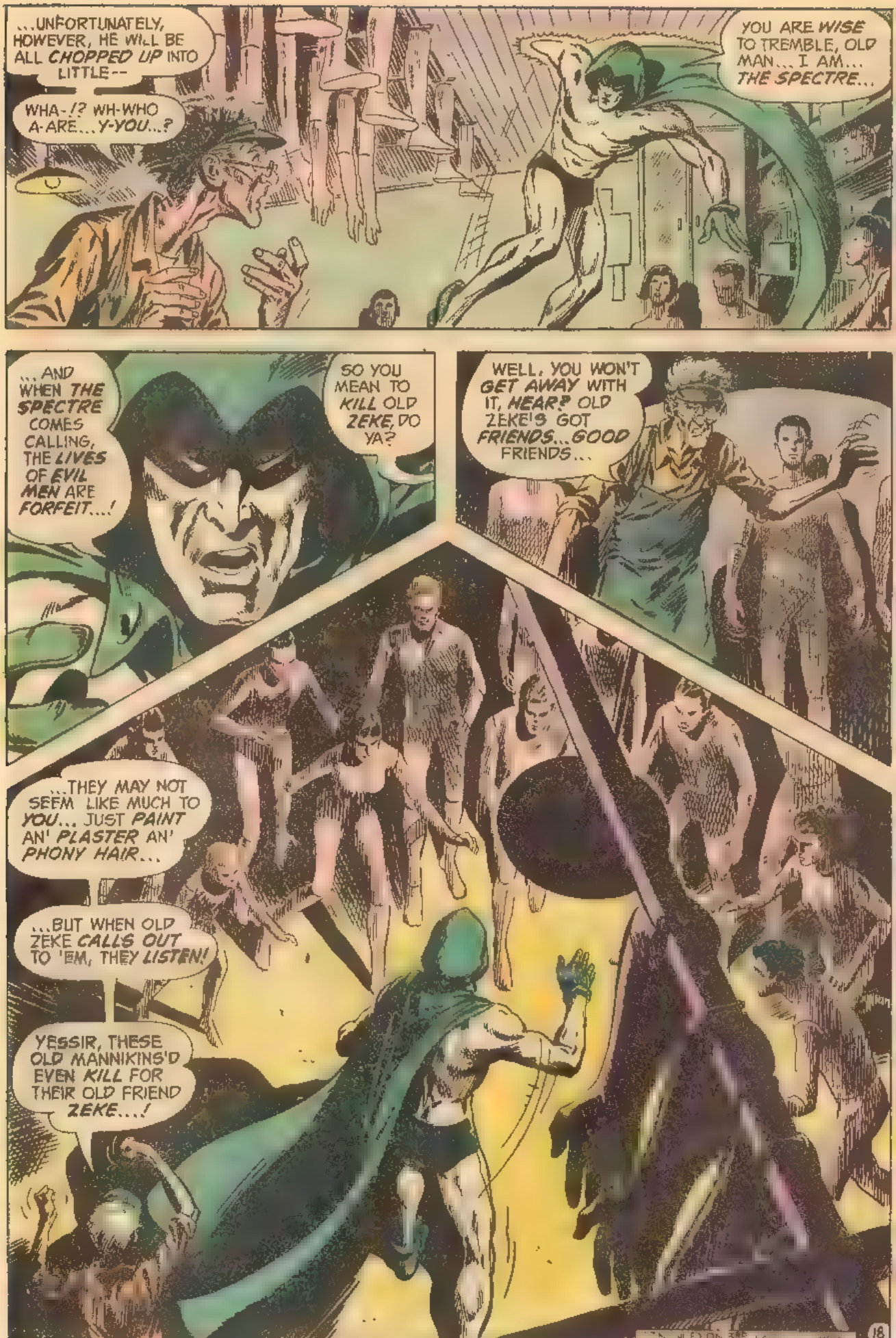
MEANWHILE

HEH HEH HEH! IT'S NO USE *STRUGGLING*, MY PET, THE *ROPES* ARE FAR TOO *TIGHT*...

BUT BY ALL MEANS KEEP ON *TRYING!* YOU LOOK SO...SO *FETCHING* WHEN YOU *STRAIN* AGAINST THE *BONDS!*

MMMPF

SOON, MY *LUSCIOUS*, MY TRUSTY *GWEN STERLING MANNIKIN* WILL HAVE *FINISHED* HER *WORK*... AND YOU WILL HAVE YOUR PESKY MR. *CORRIGAN* ALL TO *YOURSELF*, JUST AS I *PROMISED*.


...UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, HE WILL BE ALL CHOPPED UP INTO LITTLE--
WHA-!? WH-WHO A-ARE... Y-YOU...?
YOU ARE WISE TO TREMBLE, OLD MAN... I AM... THE SPECTRE...
...AND WHEN THE SPECTRE COMES CALLING, THE LIVES OF EVIL MEN ARE FORFEIT...!
SO YOU MEAN TO KILL OLD ZEKE, DO YA?
WELL, YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT, HEAR? OLD ZEKE'S GOT FRIENDS... GOOD FRIENDS...
...THEY MAY NOT SEEM LIKE MUCH TO YOU... JUST PAINT AN' PLASTER AN' PHONY HAIR...
...BUT WHEN OLD ZEKE CALLS OUT TO 'EM, THEY LISTEN!
YESSIR, THESE OLD MANNIKINS'D EVEN KILL FOR THEIR OLD FRIEND ZEKE...!

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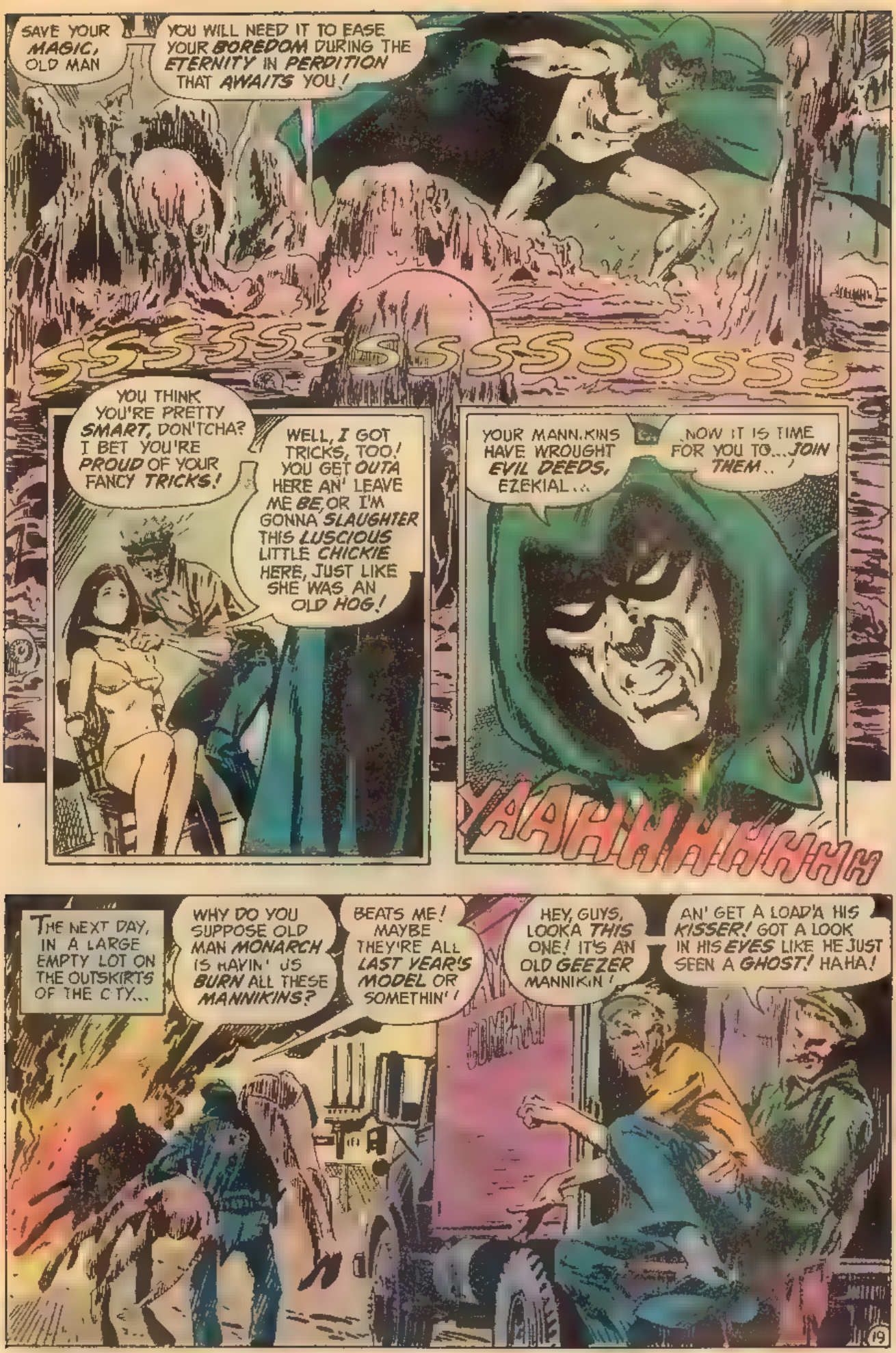
THE MYSTERY AND MAGIC OF
WAR


SAVE YOUR MAGIC, OLD MAN
YOU WILL NEED IT TO EASE YOUR BOREDOM DURING THE ETERNITY IN PERDITION THAT AWAITS YOU!
SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
YOU THINK YOU'RE PRETTY SMART, DON'TCHA? I BET YOU'RE PROUD OF YOUR FANCY TRICKS!
WELL, I GOT TRICKS, TOO! YOU GET OUTA HERE AN' LEAVE ME BE, OR I'M GONNA SLAUGHTER THIS LUSCIOUS LITTLE CHICKIE HERE, JUST LIKE SHE WAS AN OLD HOG!
YOUR MANNIKINS HAVE WROUGHT EVIL DEEDS, EZEKIAL...
NOW IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO... JOIN THEM...
YAAHHHHHHH
THE NEXT DAY, IN A LARGE EMPTY LOT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...
WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE OLD MAN MONARCH IS HAVIN' US BURN ALL THESE MANNIKINS?
BEATS ME! MAYBE THEY'RE ALL LAST YEAR'S MODEL OR SOMETHIN'!
HEY, GUYS, LOOKA THIS ONE! IT'S AN OLD GEEZER MANNIKIN!
AN' GET A LOAD'A HIS KISSER! GOT A LOOK IN HIS EYES LIKE HE JUST SEEN A GHOST! HAHA!

SOON AS WE
OOPS!
CLUNK
THE LAST OF 'EM, AIN'T I, ERNIE?
AROUND A MINUTE I WANTA WATCH 'EM BURN!
HOW COME?
I DON'T KNOW I JUST LIKE TA WATCH STUFF BURN, THAT'S ALL!
DIDN'T YA EVER USETA LIKE TA WATCH STUFF BURN WHEN YOU WAS A KID?
NAH I USETA LIKE WATER PISTOLS WHEN I WAS A KID!
HAVE A WEEGIE ONE A THEM LITTLE WATER
YEAH, I HAD ONE! THAT'S WHAT THEY CALLED 'EM ALL RIGHT. WEEGIES
THE END

DATELINE: ADVENTURE

J-3559

Dear Joe,

"The Wrath of the Spectre!" It's been a long time since we last saw a story so aptly titled. Here is the very essence of that nemesis of evil known as the Spectre. The Spectre worries not about the ills of society or the manner in which warped men become criminals. He simply sees these men as thorns who must be snipped from the vine of life. In this way the Ghostly Guardian achieves almost god-like proportions. What other character deals so mercilessly with murderers and thieves? What other could take the life of a man *so* easily? Nor[illegible] . . . but the Spectre.

The death-dealing Spectre, with skulls in his eyes, liquidating the scum of the earth in order to find himself a cozy grave is the very heart of the character. You have captured the true "spirit" of his being.

David Steele, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

The merciless quality of The Spectre was the one characteristic most commented on by our correspondents. While most of you seemed to enjoy it, some were bothered by it, like our next writer . . .

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

I'm glad that you're handling the Spectre the way he's meant to be handled: from a mystery angle rather than in the super-hero tradition. You've apparently realized that he's wearing a cloak, not a cape. I suppose that you're just following the current trend, but I feel that this incarnation will be more successful than the previous ones.

However, the storyline seemed a bit empty, offering little except sheer brutality. In any medium more literal than comics, the Spectre's method of dealing with criminals would not be tolerated; here, though, there's a tendency to get off on the novelty of watching criminals meet immediate, merciless punishment, without realizing how we would react to the same type of treatment elsewhere.

I'm a bit uneasy about the glorification of this means of fighting crime, but I doubt if future stories will emphasize it to this extent; if the Spectre continues to squelch his opponents this effortlessly, there'll be very little substance to the stories.

Aparo's art causes no qualms . . . he's perfectly suited to the strip.

Gordon Flagg, Atlanta, Georgia

The next issue of Adventure will introduce a new character who shares many of your qualms, Gordon, and where that will take us, only Michael Fleisher knows for sure!

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

It is considered very bad form to quote oneself, but in this case I just can't resist. From a letter printed in Spectre #1, December, 1967:

"Whatever happened to that awesome being who could bend the very cosmos to his will; who terrified not only those he fought but those he helped; whose eyes held instant death for those foolhardy enough to peer into them; . . . who (was) the equivalent of an earthbound Death-Angel?"

The answer: whatever happened to him is no longer important, because in Adventure #431, you brought him back. You *finally* brought him back! The Spectre is dead and well and entertaining bi-monthly in Adventure Comics! *All Right!*

Bob Butts, Tucson, Arizona

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

The Spectre story by itself was a fine piece of comic work. The story and art blended together to produce a pleasing look and a strong mood. The story's place in the Spectre's history was a bit more confusing.

Would it really hurt for your writers and fellow editors to put a thin thread of continuity into their stories? So many changes have been made in the Spectre that the character is very confusing. I'd appreciate an explanation one of these days.

Since the change in Adventure, my hopes have been running high for new stories of some of the discontinued heroes, especially Aquaman. Well?

John Leasur[illegible] Portsmouth, Ohio

After long and careful thought, we've come up with an explanation for all the Spectre variations: we are now writing about the Earth-One Spectre, not the Earth-Two Spectre who you're more familiar with (anyone not familiar with the Julius Schwartz-Gardner Fox-et al theory of two worlds should pick up the September-October Flash for the details). As for Aquaman, he'll be in the very next issue of Adventure!

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

HE'S BACK! BACK! BACK! Did you hear me? BACK!

Obviously, I didn't get that excited about the return (were they gone?) of the Sneris in #431. Not bad, as sci-fi goes, but very overshadowed by the new star of Adventure—The Spectre!

As with many heroes, somewhere along the way the original concept of The Spectre had gotten lost. Over the years, I've managed to acquire some of these Golden Age stories, featuring both the awesome, ghostly guardian and the later befuddled babysitter.

And yet, there was potential . . . as pointed out in the reprint of his origin in Secret Origins a few months back. After all the various in-between versions, somebody finally admitted a mistake and decided to go back to the original concept—fantastic!!

The Spectre. Just knowing he would return prompted me to subscribe to Adventure, but I never dreamed . . . Aparo art. Neal Adams, move over! The Spectre has come into his own! Bless you, Michael Fleisher, wherever you are, for THE Spectre, THE ONE AND ONLY GHOSTLY GUARDIAN! He's back! BACK! Now, LET HIM STAY!

Ray Johnson, Grand Rapids, Michigan

. . . . .

Lastly, readers, a note about this issue and the next. We're very pleased by this issue's unusual art team of Frank Thorne (pencils) and Jim Aparo (inks), which was created in order to fit the extra-long novel into Jim's hectic schedule, and we hope to bring them back together sometime in the future. Let us know your opinions on the matter. *Next Issue:* Meet "The Man Who Stalked—The Spectre!" (by Michael Fleisher, Russell Carley, and Jim Aparo) and AQUAMAN returns to battle an old foe "As The Undersea City Sleeps" (by Steve Skeates and Mike Grell). Meanwhile, send your letters to: DATELINE: ADVENTURE, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019

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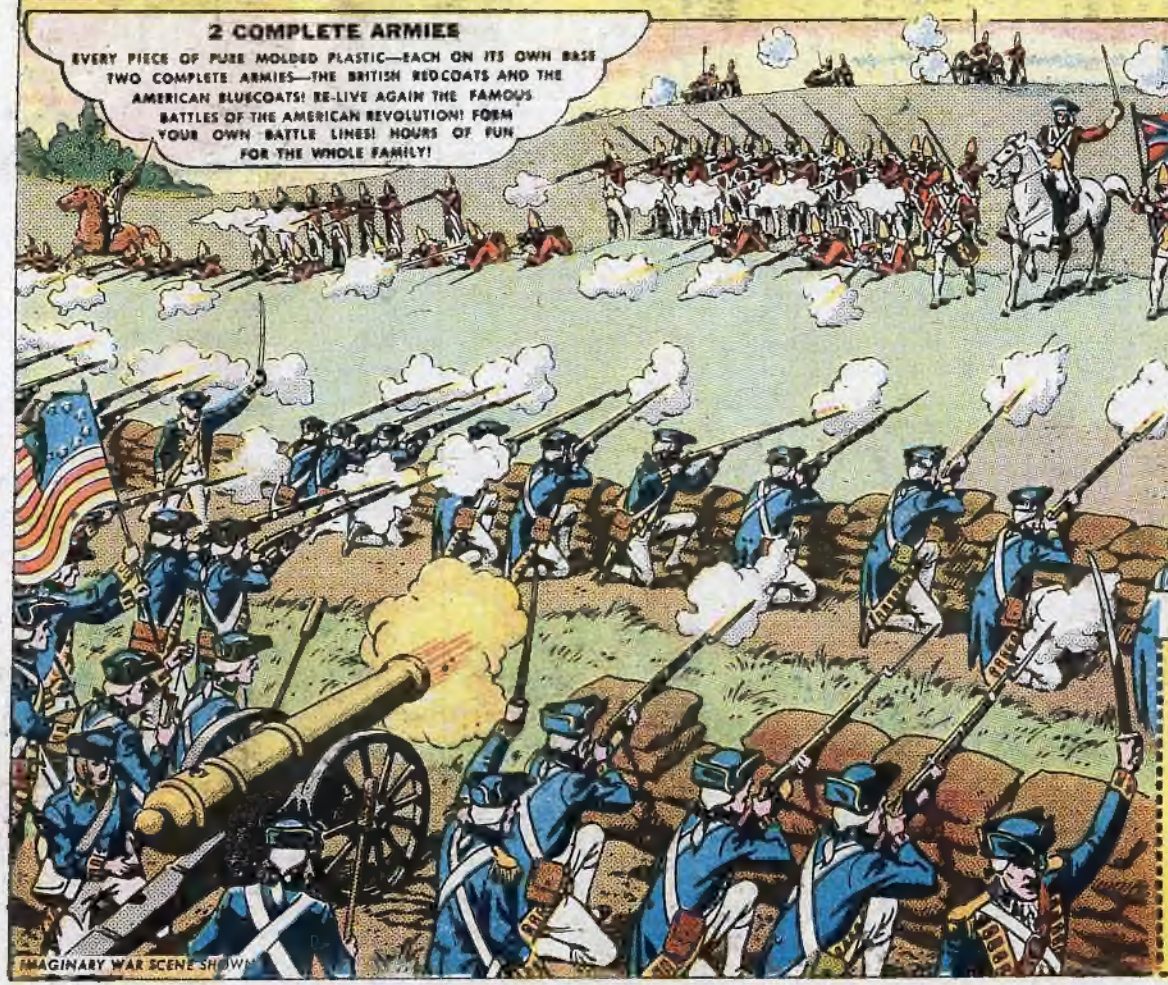

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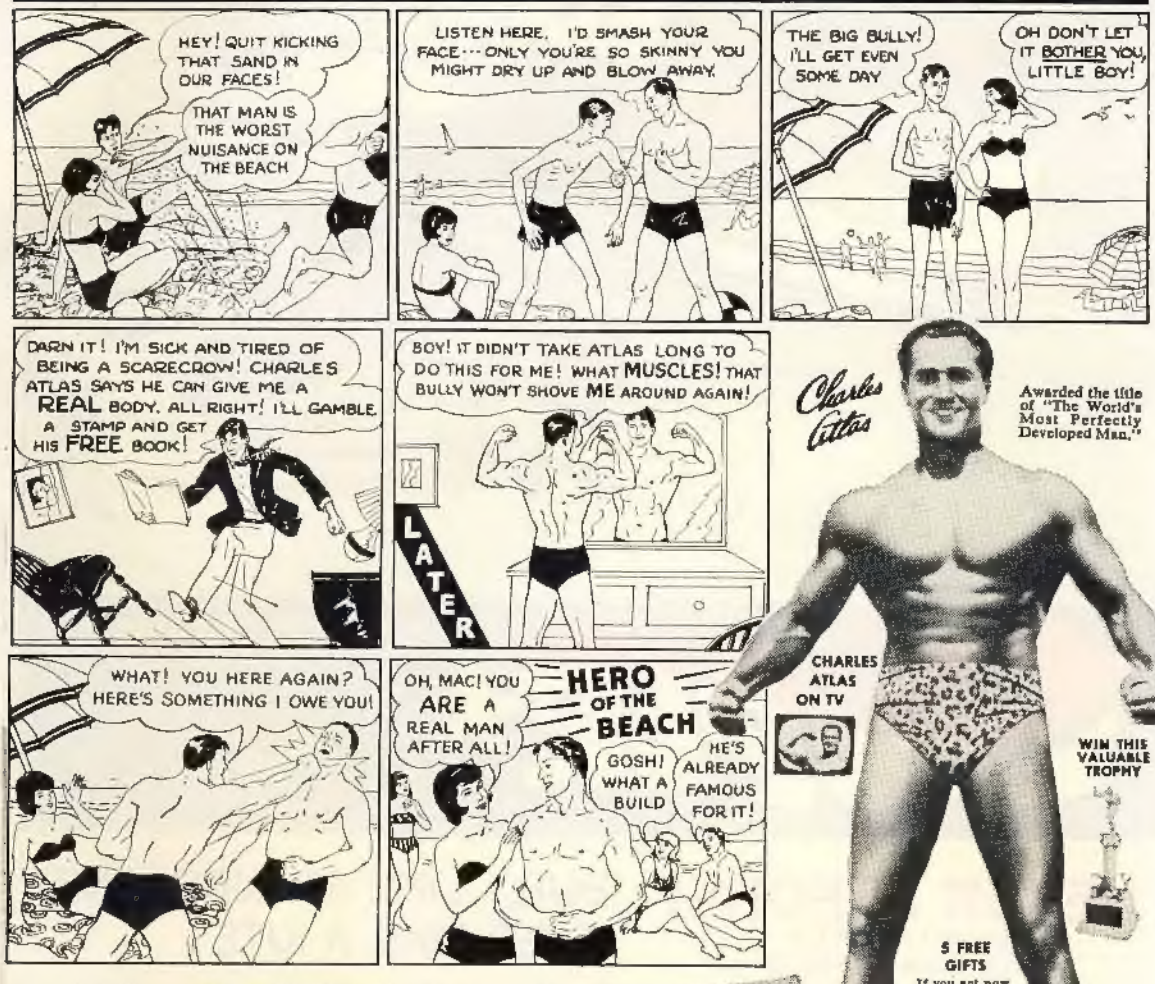
THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"


HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE, I'D SMASH YOUR FACE··· ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
LATER
WHAT! YOU HERE AGAIN? HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!
HERO OF THE BEACH
GOSH! WHAT A BUILD
HE'S ALREADY FAMOUS FOR IT!

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